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Louis Del Duca

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Symposium

Introduction to Educating Lawyers for Transnational Challenges

Louis Del Duca*

Two timely and interesting programs on “Educating Lawyers for Transnational Challenges” and “Transnational Law: What is it? How Does it Differ from International Law and Comparative Law?” were included in the San Francisco 2005 Annual Association of American Law Schools (AALS) meeting. The symposium which follows integrates the presentations made at these two programs. The valuable ideas and insights of the distinguished participants are thereby available as a resource for further development of creative responses to the evolving challenges and opportunities presented to legal education at the outset of the new millennium.

The program on “Educating Lawyers for Transnational Challenges” was co-sponsored by the AALS Sections on Graduate Programs for Foreign Lawyers, Africa, Comparative Law, Law School Deans, International Law and International Legal Exchange. The program on “Transnational Law: What Is It? How Does It Differ From International Law and Comparative Law?” was jointly sponsored by the AALS Executive Committee and American Society of International Law. Louis

* Robert Noll Professor of Law, Director, Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs, Director, Center for International and Comparative Law, The Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law.

Del Duca (Penn State Dickinson School of Law) and Charlotte Ku (Executive Director of the American Society of International Law) served as moderators for the programs. Other participants were Claudio Grossman (American University Washington College of Law), Carl Monk (AALS Executive Director), Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker (University of Pacific McGeorge School of Law), Craig M. Scott (Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto, Ontario, Canada), Frans Vanistendael (Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Leuven, Belgium), Vivian Grosswald Curran (University of Pittsburgh, School of Law), Mary C. Daly (St. Johns University School of Law), Mathias W. Reimann (The University of Michigan Law School), Gerald A. Sumida, Esq. (Carlsmith Ball LL.P., Honolulu, Hawaii), James H. Carter, Esq. (Sullivan & Cromwell, LL.P. New York, New York and President, American Society of International Law), and Gerald Torres (The University of Texas School of Law and President of the AALS).

Questions addressed included the following:

- Is there a core curriculum for transnational lawyers? If so, should it be adjusted for implementation in different legal systems and different countries?
- Should there be a required basic transnational course?
- What techniques are available to incorporate transnational components into "traditional" law school courses?
- What are the roles of distance learning, clinical legal education and language training in this process?
- What procedures will facilitate continuing cross border consideration of these subjects?
- What potential does use of Cooperative Agreements and International Legal Education have at J.D. and LL.M. Levels?

A stimulating treatment of these questions is offered by the symposium which follows.